

THRILL GANG ATTACKS MAN

Your Complete Community Newspaper

SERVING GREATER TORRANCE

Torrance Herald

Sports Car Bankers Get Bronx Cheer (Beebe, Page 4)

Verified VAC Audit

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A Penny for your Thoughts

"Do you think adults and the general public have the wrong impression of teenagers?"

Jerry Hostetler, 4805 Laurette St.

"Yes, I think the public has the wrong impression. In fact, I think most kids are delinquents mainly because there is nothing for them to do. The public impression is right. Not all kids are that way, but a good percentage of them are."

Ken Martin, 22118 Elmo:

"A lot of the adults do not realize times have changed and not the same as they used to be. Also, adults do not remember how they acted when they were young."

Jerry Wiegell, 22114 Elmo:

"A lot of minor things kids do, such as pushing over a little kid's bike, are not as bad as adults really make out they are. Kids think things we do are fun, but adults think we do it just to be mean."

Carann Ribarich, San Pedro:

"Actually, I think most adults have the wrong impression. I think they get a bad impression from reading about a few kids in the paper and think all kids are bad."

Cathy Holt, San Pedro:

"I feel some of the adults understand and others do not. I think a large majority of the people think we are well behaved. I don't think the public is justified in their overall opinions that we are bad."

Burglary Wave Continues

3-Year-Old Struck by Car Feb. 11

A 3-year-old boy is Torrance's first fatality of the year. Kenneth Allen, 3821 W. 186th St., died Thursday night as the result of injuries suffered when he was struck by a car on Feb. 11, police said.

'Annex Us' Lomitas Tell City

Five Lomita business firms have asked that a section of Pacific Coast Highway between the present Torrance city limits and Pennsylvania Avenue be annexed to Torrance, it was reported here this week.

Police Rush Ailing Tot To Hospital

Officers of the Torrance Police Department and the California Highway Patrol joined forces early yesterday to rush a 9-month-old boy suffering of possible spinal meningitis to Children's Hospital early Saturday.

Aloysius Hamen, 43, of 1537 W. 261st St., Harbor City. The boy suffered head injuries.

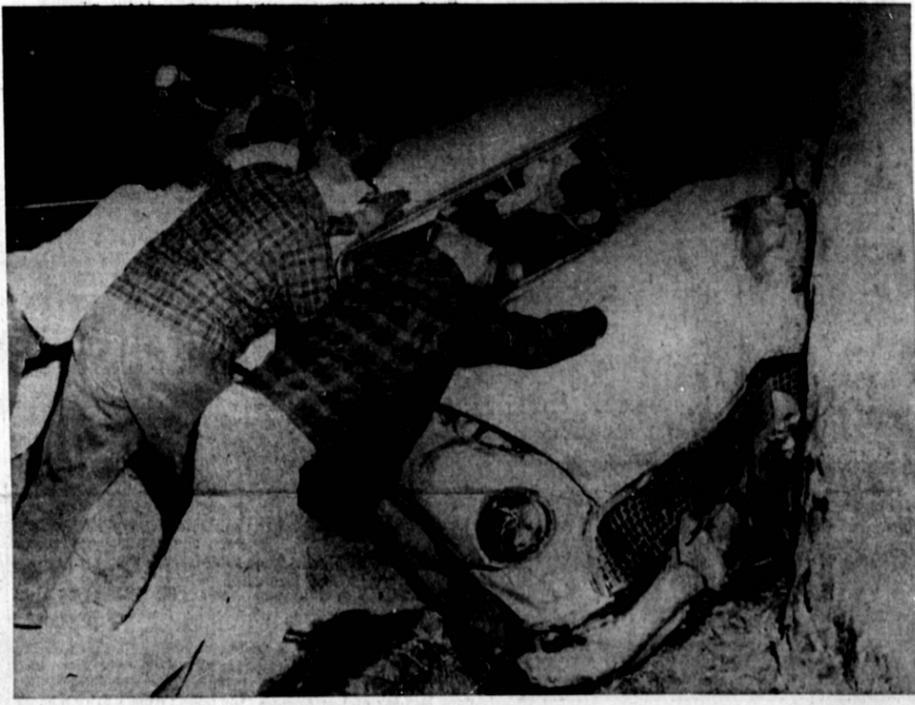
IN AN accident early Friday morning at Western Avenue and Carson Street, two women were injured when the sedan in which they were riding collided with a signal on a traffic island.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital was the driver Margaret Ann Heflin, 36, of 1530 W. 224th St., Apt. 3, and her passenger, Marge Gladys Hommes of 1530 W. 224th St., Apt. 7.

A Torrance man driving a pickup truck collided with the rear of a car driven by his wife Thursday night at Western Avenue and 220th Street.

Father Percy Heads Traffic Safety Group

The Rev. Hugh R. Percy, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, was elected chairman of the city's Traffic Safety Council this week to succeed Robert Vroman. Mrs. Louis Bisou was named vice chairman by the group.



VEHICLE RIGHTED . . . Passersby join fire and police officers in righting a vehicle in which Nick Ranieri, 25, Compton, was lying with a broken leg and other injuries. The vehicle may have slammed into a tree at Western Avenue near 211th Street early Saturday when the driver dozed off, investigating officers speculated. Ranieri was taken to Harbor General Hospital. (Herald Photo)

Stores, Houses Entered

Burglars who looted a number of Torrance business firms and homes during the past week got away with goods valued at a total of several thousand dollars, according to reports made to Torrance police.

Thieves who visited the home of Paul R. Trupp at 16911 Purche Ave. Friday night left with the family silverware, a television set, radios, jewelry, and other items with a total value of \$1,094.

EARLIER IN the week, burglars entered the Hollypark National Paint Store at 20368 Hawthorne Blvd., by pushing through an air conditioning unit, and left with \$877 in cash, watches worth \$410, a \$200 adding machine, and paint supplies and tools.

Thieves pushed through the rear door of a coffee shop at 24450 Hawthorne Blvd. Friday night in a burglary attempt, and others entered the garage of Leonard Mason, 3342 W. 174th St., about the same time and removed hub caps from his car and attempted to remove the wheels.

Edward V. Grande, 2276 Del Amo Blvd., said someone broke into his home and took a 410-gauge and 20-gauge shotguns he had acquired recently for a hunting trip.

ATTENDANT JOHN Joseph Mason reported that he was the victim of a till-tap at his service station at 22925 S. Western Ave. Friday night. Police, cruising nearby arrested four suspects shortly after Mason reported that \$80 had been taken from a till on one of the station's islands while he was occupied by persons believed to be part of the operation.

Lyndle G. Newman reported the theft of a cement mixer valued at \$350 from his yard at 22621 Marjorie Ave., and Hoher Chandler, 22972 Cabrillo Ave., reported that his home had been entered, apparently by two teenagers in search of money.

THOMAS J. WARE, 2812 Danaha, told officers someone entered his house through a nursery window by standing a box on end under the window and climbing through. The family was asleep in another room at the time. The intruder (Continued on Page 2)

Broken Bottles Used to Slash Man Near Torrance Home

Arrest of three Hawthorne youths on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon climaxed an early-morning melee Saturday in which a North Torrance man was brutally beaten and slashed with the jagged edges of a broken bottle.

Booked on assault charges were Robert Delbert Mulcahy, 20; Harry Reynolds Jr., 19; and John Russell Morin, 17. Morin also was charged with curfew violation and lack of parental supervision.

Mulcahy, oldest of the trio, was identified as the assaulter of a Hawthorne policeman last year who was fined \$25 and placed on one year probation in September.

ARREST OF the trio yesterday followed an attack on John Palenko, 24, of 18223 Ashley Ave., in an alley near the vic-

tim's home. Palenko told investigating officers that the three men knocked him down, hit and kicked him, and that one of the trio grabbed a wine bottle, broke it on the side of the auto, and slashed him with the broken edges.

The victim and his wife had been bowling and he had just walked home with his sister who lives nearby. She had been babysitting for the Palenkos.

He said the three youths, who were accompanied by a 17-year-old Lawndale girl, drove by him as he walked in the alley, the car brushing him. One of the youths yelled to him to "get the hell out of the way," he reported.

AT THIS POINT, the attackers leaped out of the car and began beating Palenko. He was

hit over the head with a bottle by one of the youths and another then broke the wine bottle and began slashing at him, he said. Palenko later went to Little Company of Mary Hospital where he was treated for bruises and cuts about his face and neck.

Officers James Gillibrand and Donald Flaherty, first on the scene, were talking to Palenko's wife, Elfriede, when she spotted the car driving by on 182nd Street. The officers left the Palenko home and halted the car near 182nd Street and Hawthorne Boulevard where Reynolds and the 17-year-old girl were apprehended. Mulcahy and Morin were picked up nearby after officers learned they had gone into a service station restroom nearby to wash up.

MULCAHY WAS identified as the assailant in a May 19 attack on a Hawthorne police officer. He and several friends had gone to the Hawthorne station to check on other teenagers who had been arrested for the thrill beating of a Redondo Beach teenager.

Mulcahy leaped over a desk, attacked the officer and broke his leg when the gang was ordered out of the station at that time. In September Mulcahy

was convicted of the assault and a fine levied.

AT THE TIME OF the May beating, Ronald Barnett was nearly killed when he was chained and clubbed by a gang of more than a dozen men in Hawthorne. Most of the bones about his face were broken, and he suffered fractured ribs and numerous body cuts and bruises.

Eleven were arrested for the attack, and just this week, two of those arrested were sentenced in Inglewood Superior Court by Judge Allen Miller. John R. Keaveny, 20, and Edward W. Rabus, 19, were fined \$200 and put on probation for three years.

Charges against the other nine were dropped, and the attempted murder and assault with a deadly weapon charges against Keaveny and Rabus were reduced to assault with force before the trial.

Named to Board

James Schindler, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Schindler of 5014 Via El Sereno, has been named board member of Daily Publications at Iowa State University. He is enrolled in the college of engineering.

Fire Losses Drop in 1962

Torrance's Fire Department responded to 198 residential fires last year which resulted in a total loss of \$27,240.

The figures are included in an annual report just released by Chief J. J. Benner. Although there were 204 residential fires the year before, the number last year did not increase in proportion to the rising population but rather decreased slightly, the chief said.

Growing fire safety consciousness resulting from fire prevention and public education efforts of the fire department largely attributed to the

reduction, according to the department.

A TOTAL OF \$125,000 in losses was reported last year in 17 manufacturing fires. Nine non-residential fires resulted in \$18,500 in losses and \$1,150 in losses was reported in 35 mercantile fires.

In other alarms, the department responded to 137 grass fires, 140 automobile fires, 8 oil field blazes, and 13 false alarms. The department was called for 68 washdowns, such as an automobile accident in which gasoline spills on the highway.

The resuscitator responded to the largest number of calls, 324.

A HIGHLIGHT for the department last year was the formation of a new crash crew which received 80 hours of instruction on operation of a new crash truck stationed at the Torrance airport.

Many people, especially school children, enjoying seeing fire trucks, the fire pole men slide down when answering an alarm, and in Torrance a total of 4,528 saw the various facilities at four fire stations. The most popular sta-

tion was the headquarters building at Crenshaw Boulevard and Carson Street where 3,335 visitors were counted.

FIREMEN RECEIVED realistic training when six old houses on school district property were burned.

Tabletop demonstrations, lectures, and films were presented by the Fire Prevention Bureau at various high schools, Harbor College, PTAs, scout and church groups, Dow Chemical, Red Cross classes, Torrance Junior Women's Club, and the Elk's lodge.

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